

McLAIN & WINTERS

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

61 N. HURON
YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197
(734) 481-1120

DENNIS O. McLAIN
WM. DOUGLAS WINTERS
ANGELA B. KING

FAX (734) 481-8909
E-MAIL: mwatty@voyager.net

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VIA U.S. MAIL ONLY

Michigan Supreme Court Clerk
PO Box 30052
Lansing, Michigan 48909

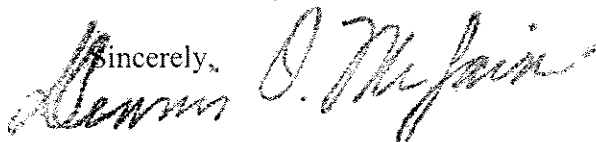
Re: Supreme Court Jury Proposals

Dear Sir or Madame:

I read a recent article in the Washtenaw County Legal News regarding the proposals with interest and while I agree with the majority of the proposals, I am absolutely opposed to allowing judges to sum-up the evidence and comment to the jury about the weight of the evidence. It would be far too easy, were this rule adopted, for a judge to steer a jury to a possible conclusion by their tone, mannerisms, and statements—none of which would be reflected in the transcript. In close cases, the slightest indication of the way in which a judge leans could sway a jury. Judges should remain impartial and refrain from disclosing their thoughts about a case to a jury.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Sincerely,



Dennis O. McLain

DOM/mgf

